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UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

JUNE 1912

The Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The National Alliance of Unitarian Women, The Unitarian Sunday School Society, Young People's Religious Union, and The Unitarian Temperance Society

Publication Department

AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts

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THE UNITARIAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES

REPRESENTED IN THIS ISSUE OF WORD AND WORK

THE AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

The Association was founded in 1825, its object being "to diffuse the knowledge and promote the interests of pure Christianity. In furtherance of this purpose the Association publishes books, reports, and tracts; supports missionaries; establishes and maintains churches, and aids in supporting ministers; assists students in preparing for the ministry; and helps fellow-citizens of foreign birth and speech in entering upon their American life. It administers endowments for the benefit of schools and churches of the Unitarian order; for the relief of poor and worthy ministers and the widows of ministers; for providing public lectures in centers of population; for the benefit of schools for colored people in the South; and for many other beneficent purposes.

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF UNITARIAN WOMEN

The National Alliance was organized in 1890, and has for its aims primarily to quicken the religious life of the Unitarian churches, and to bring the women of the denomination into closer acquaintance, co-operation and fellowship; to promote local organizations of women for missionary and denominational work; to bring them into helpful association; to collect and disseminate information regarding all matters of interest to the denomination, such as needs of local societies, facilities for meeting these needs, work to be done, the collection and distribution of money, and in general to devise ways and means for the most efficient usefulness of the women of the Unitarian fellowship.

THE UNITARIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIETY

The Society was founded in 1827, and exists for the purpose of co-operating with the churches and Sunday schools and the homes of the Unitarian denomination in promoting the religious and moral education of the rising generation. It seeks to increase the number, size and efficiency of the Sunday schools; to publish manuals for use in the Sunday school and the home; to keep abreast with the progress and application of psychology and pedagogy to religious education; and to disseminate knowledge of the principles and methods involved.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS UNION

The Union was organized in 1896, and its purposes are to foster the religious life; to bring the young people of the Unitarian churches into closer relations with one another; and to spread rational views of religion and to put into practice such principles of life and duty as tend to uplift mankind. The cardinal principles of the Union are truth, worship and service. It maintains a field secretary to promote the organization of the young people and to extend the fellowship of the Union.

THE UNITARIAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

The Temperance Society is practically the working committee of the Unitarian churches to promote the cause of temperance in every way possible. It publishes and freely distributes addresses, pamphlets, leaflets and tracts, and furnishes temperance news and facts to the public press. It arranges for conferences on the subject of temperance and sends speakers to general meetings where this subject may properly have a share in the interest and attention.

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Vol. 15 JUNE, 1912 No. 9

EDITORIAL

THE meetings of Anniversary Week were more largely attended than for a good many years past, and there was a gratifying display of interest and enthusiasm on the part of the delegates. Several important forward steps were taken. The most important was the adoption by the Unitarian Sunday School Society of the agreement with the American Unitarian Association, by which the Association takes over the responsibility for the active work of the Sunday School Society. The debate at the meeting of the Sunday School Society was the best of the week. The speeches were brief, concise, pointed, and perfectly good-tempered. The proposed agreement was thoroughly debated and was finally adopted by a nearly unanimous vote.

UNDER this agreement the Sunday School Society continues its corporate existence and will hold its regular meetings in the spring and fall. Its Board of Directors becomes the Advisory Council of the Department of Religious Education of the American Unitarian Association, and will practically control the policies of the new department. Mr. Lawrance becomes the Secretary of the new department. The advantages of the new plan can be readily summarized. (1) It simplifies the giving in our churches, so that there will be hereafter one instead of two appeals. (2) It relieves Mr. Lawrance and his associates from administrative cares and financial worry. (3) It brings the resources of the Association to the support of the all important work of religious education in our churches.

THE new Department of Religious Education will be organized as rapidly as circumstances permit, by the appointment of new field secretaries, by the planning for new manuals and courses of instruction, by the arrangements for Sunday School Institutes, by the extension of our work of religious education into schools, colleges and homes, and by the placing at the disposal of our churches of a number of experts who will advocate wise methods of religious education and endeavor to stimulate interest and responsibility. The new Department of Religious Education is anxious for all the helpful suggestions which members of our fellowship may contribute. The Board of Directors of the Sunday School Society, which now becomes the Advisory Council of the new Department of Religious Education, has already

taken steps to provide for these advances. Committees have been appointed by the President of the Association as follows: (1) a committee to discover and nominate to the Directors of the Association two or three new field secretaries for the service of the department; (2) a committee to make a comprehensive plan for the development of the work of religious education in our churches and to recommend the necessary manuals and methods; (3) a committee to co-operate with the committee which has in preparation the revised edition of the Hymn and Tune Book, so that there may be incorporated in that book a well-selected section of hymns for children which may afterwards be separately used, with additions, in our Sunday schools; (4) a committee to provide for normal courses for Sunday school teachers in connection with the Tuckerman School; (5) a committee to make recommendations for a series of free bulletins dealing with various aspects of the general subject of religious education; (6) a committee to report a plan for the development of the *Beacon*. The summer institutes are already organized and will be held at Meadville, Pa., the Isles of Shoals and The Weirs, Laconia, N. H.

THE May meetings brought not only a large attendance of the loyal ministers and members of our churches, but also a number of welcome guests and newcomers. Professor Jacks, Dean of Manchester College, Oxford, preached the Anniversary Sermon, also spoke at the Berry Street Conference and gave the address at the graduation exercises of the Tuckerman School. During the week after Anniversary Week he conducted the regular services at Appleton Chapel, Cambridge, and he has now taken charge of the pulpit of the First Parish Church in Cambridge for the month of June broken only by one Sunday in Montreal. Abdul Baha, the prophet of the Bahaist movement, spoke through an interpreter at the Festival and before the Religious Education Association and attended various other gatherings. His utterances were quite familiar in sound to Unitarian ears and his form of universal religion is congenial to the Unitarian habit of mind. Mr. William Sullivan was an especially welcome speaker at the Festival. For a newcomer in our fellowship, he proves to have a remarkable grasp upon the fundamental principles of the liberal gospel and he has also the charm of lucid expression and vivid personality. Jenkin Lloyd Jones was a welcome guest at many meetings. It is five or six years since he has been at the Anniversary meetings, and his addresses before the Ministerial Union and the Free Religious Association were as stimulating as ever.

THE missionary meeting in Ford Hall on Monday night was spirited and cheerful. Representatives from different parts of the country told of the home mission work, its difficulties, its challenges, its failures and successes. Mr. Parker told about the work in Texas, Mr. Powell of Montana, Dr. Morgan of California, Dr. Mason of the work in Western Pennsylvania and Mrs. Davis of her experience in various parts of the country. The morning services in King's Chapel and the vesper services in the First Church were well attended throughout the week. Mr. Manchester gave an appreciative address about the lives of the ministers who have died during the last year; and at

the Communion service on Thursday morning much satisfaction was felt at the order of service which is to be incorporated in the new Service Book, and which was used for the first time.

THE Eighty-seventh Annual Report of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association has come to hand and records the work of a year of healthy progress. The British Association co-operates with the American Association in the support of the work in western Canada, in the new mission at Montego Bay, Jamaica, in the work in Italy under the charge of Mr. Conte, and in the annual appropriations in testimony of our goodwill toward our brethren in Hungary. The British Association also makes appropriations for Unitarian work in Brussels, Belgium, and Christiania, Norway. It helps to support two native Indian students, one at Calcutta and one at Manchester College, Oxford. In the colonies it helps the mission stations among the Khasi Hills in India, and churches in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. A new society has been organized at Johannesburg, South Africa. It is interesting to note that the Van Mission has now reached over a million hearers each season. There are now four vans regularly employed, one in the north of England, another in Lancashire and the Midlands, one in London and the neighborhood, and the fourth in southeastern Wales. The report of the Secretary of the Association justly says: "Protests against mistaken and degrading conceptions of God and man are still needed, and should be continued until no longer needed; but the upbuilding and strengthening of a religious faith which the human mind and heart can accept as true and good is our chief work as Unitarians. This is an arduous and difficult task, far more arduous and difficult than our forefathers conceived. But to-day the signs of the times are on the whole more favorable towards a reasoned and reverent religious faith than during any previous period."

THE Massachusetts Federation of the Churches is the sponsor of an appropriate and practical plan for the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth. This anniversary will fall in 1920. It is suggested that the most fitting form of celebration will be the federation of the forces and energies of the churches that are the heirs of the Pilgrim tradition. A great religious impulse dominated the Pilgrim migration. Out of it have come the institutions and laws and customs which are characteristically American. The celebration of the 300th anniversary should obviously be vitally related to religious ideals and made to serve religious ends. What the Federation proposes is that during the next eight years there should be steady and persistent effort toward the elimination of competing churches in New England, the effective organization of each local group of churches for the advancement of common ends and the increasing co-operation of the churches with all the recognized agencies of social betterment. The *Congregationalist* has taken up this ideal and urges that the eight years before the anniversary be used to overcome the present waste and overlapping of religious effort, and the forwarding and unifying of the religious forces of the community.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS

The following quotations are taken from interesting letters recently received at headquarters. It is our belief that all readers of WORD AND WORK will have a sympathetic interest in the experience of those who are finding their way from the uncertainties of religious conviction and belief into the light of larger views.

"Enclosed find a money order for fifty cents, my monthly contribution to our Association. As soon as I can honestly do so I will increase the amount of my monthly contributions, for I think you are doing a grand and noble work.

"Unitarianism is a great comfort to my oppressed heart and I want to do everything within my power to further the good cause.

L. M. W."

"In response to a recent request of mine you kindly sent me a few pamphlets, and I have been so comforted and entertained and convinced that I feel that I must thank you. I am 60 years old, and have been a Unitarian in belief for forty-five years, and yet have never been inside a Unitarian church or had converse with fellow-believers or thinkers. The wonder of it all to me is why all educated, reasoning, thinking men and women can think otherwise.

"I am living away off in a new country just being settled by people from various sections of the United States. There is not a church house here yet. I distribute the literature, after reading it myself, among such as are reasoning, rational people.

"An educated and a reasoning and thinking man, unprejudiced, full of experience and ripe with age, finds much to steady and anchor him in the reading of your pamphlets.

"With best wishes for the future of our church, allow me to subscribe myself

Fraternally yours,

J. B. T."

"I have been a slave long enough. I have been in the Baptist pulpit for seven years and have reached the conclusion that it is the wrong place for me. I was raised in the South, but left the South because I could not fellowship with the narrowness of certain denominations, and now I feel that I cannot consistently represent their cause. I would have been a Unitarian before now had it not been for family ties, but I can bear it no longer.

B. F. A."

"It is my firm belief that the Unitarian church is far the most rational one that I can advocate with absolute sincerity and practice with zeal. It is impossible by letter to introduce one's self, but so far as possible I have done so in a crude way. For some time I have been thinking that I could do most good for myself and for mankind by entering Unitarianism.

"I am naturally religious. So far I have prayed to my God alone and unheard by men, and this faith between me and my maker has kept me ambitious and determined to reach my ideal in the domain of practical service. Can you not find a way for me to enter your ministry at an early date? What preparation and what probation would be imperative?

"I shall sincerely appreciate your advice. I was offered a free education by a high official of the Mormon church, by a Catholic priest, and by an engineer, but my conscience never would sanction my accepting assistance from those whose desires conflicted with my ideals.

"Thanking you for whatever interest you may take in me, I am

Sincerely yours, J. M."

American Unitarian Association

Headquarters: 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, D.D., *President* — Henry M. Williams, *Treasurer*
Rev. Lewis G. Wilson, *Secretary* — C. L. Stebbins, *Publication Agent*
F. Stanley Howe, *Assistant Secretary*

Ministerial Personals

Rev. E. D. Towle has accepted a call to Peabody, Mass. Rev. R. D. Van Tassel has received a call to Sioux City, Iowa. Mr. P. E. Lyndon, of the Meadville Theological School, has received a call to Bernardston, Mass. Rev. Percy M. Dawson will close his work at Ann Arbor on July 1st. Rev. C. F. Elliott has resigned at Quincy, Ill. Rev. T. C. Brockway has received a call to Butte, Mont. Rev. R. Petursson, the Superintendent of the Icelandic Missions in Manitoba, has gone to Iceland for the summer, with a view to getting into communication with friends and fellow-workers in the home country. Rev. S. M. Crothers and Rev. T. D. Bacon are the delegates of the American Unitarian Association to the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association in London this month. Rev. B. A. Goodridge, of Santa Barbara, Cal., has been granted a year's leave of absence for travel and study abroad. During next winter his pulpit will be supplied by Rev. Theodore C. Williams.

Department Reports

This month the Association's section of Word and Work is almost wholly made up of the following abridgements of the reports of the heads of departments, these abstracts being in nearly all cases, for want of space, extremely fragmentary and incomplete, giving only the briefest statements of the most important features of the year's work in each department.

Publication Department

The total printing and approximate distribution of tracts for the past year has amounted to 336,500 copies. Of the Memorable Sermons 12,000 have been printed and 23,000 of the Social Service Bulletins. During the year twelve tracts have been added to the list,—six in the regular series and six in the Social Service series, issued alternately. The total number of free pamphlets now listed in the tract catalogue is 329. The expense of tract printing and distribution was $3,800. Of the Year Book 3,100 copies are printed and a little less than 3,000 distributed to life members and settled ministers, about 100 besides being sold. The cost of the Year Book, including postage on the distribution referred to, amounted to $842.12. Of the Annual Report 13,000 copies were printed and very nearly that number distributed. The expense of printing and distribution was $1,553.24. Sixty-four copies of Channing's Discourses and Essays have been presented upon request to theological students and settled ministers of various denominations. Ten libraries have been presented with parcels of books.

Eight new books have been published, and one new and enlarged edition of an older title. With these might be included The Proceedings and Papers of the Fifth International Congress, the sale of which has been handled by the Publication Department in the absence of the Secretary for Foreign Relations. Altogether, of old and new books, 6,835 have been

sold, with 1,726 hymn and service books, making a total of 8,561. The total expenses of book publication for the year, to which is charged the Publication Agent's salary, have amounted to $8,088.50, with a loss on the year's business of $433.28.

Of each issue of WORD AND WORK 5,200 copies have been printed and something over 5,100 distributed. Nine issues are published during the year, the annual distribution being, therefore, about 46,000. The expense of publication exclusive of the June number has been $1,594.90, and the receipts from subscriptions and sales have amounted to $1,879.20. This apparent profit, however, of $284.30 is to be decreased by the expense of the June issue, which will be approximately $180.00, leaving about $104.00 final net profit for the completed year. Thirty-nine editions of the *Calendar* aside from the general edition have been regularly issued during the year. The new method of the Post Office Department in delivering second-class mail by freight instead of by through passenger trains, as heretofore, has tended to injure the serviceability or availability of the *Calendar* at points westward beyond the State of New York or beyond New Jersey and Pennsylvania toward the south. Distant Western and Southern churches have, therefore, found it unavailable. Each issue numbers 7,650 copies, with a profit of $64.84. The margin is so small as to make it plain that the price for it charged the churches is as low as it can be made without creating a deficit.

Department of Foreign Relations

Our principal Unitarian missionary agency in the foreign field is the well-established and influential Unitarian Mission in Japan. The record of the past year has been one of the most notable in its history. The new minister at Tokio, Rev. S. Uchigasaki, a recent graduate of Manchester College, Oxford, proves to be an accession of real strength. The American representative of our Association, Rev. Dr. Clay MacCauley, continues to be a wise and beloved counsellor and friend of the Unitarian movement in Japan, whose activities are now carried on almost exclusively by the Japanese themselves. An important accession to our working force is Mr. Suzuki, the new secretary, who takes the place of the faithful Saichiro Kanda, and proves to be a devoted and efficient worker.

The Monthly review of the Mission, *Rikugo-zasshi,* has lately been greatly enlarged and improved. It is edited by Prof. Minami, who, with Mr. Uchigasaki, Prof. Abe, Mr. Suzuki and other contributors, is fast making it one of the most widely recognized organs of religious opinion in Japan.

The Amercan Unitarian Association during the past year has continued its annual contribution of $250 to our Hungarian brethren in Budapest, purchased for sale and distribution 300 copies of the English report of the Fifth World Congress of Free Christians and Other Religious Liberals in Berlin, made a donation of $100 towards the publication of the "Indian Messenger," the well-conducted organ of the Brahmo Somaj, made an appropriation of $600 to Mr. Gaetano Conte of Florence, to aid in the initiation of his liberal religious work in Italy, and contributed $100 towards the work of Miss M. B. Westenhobz in Scandinavia.

The Secretary of the Department was granted a year's leave of absence in order to study abroad the existing religious conditions and needs of European and Oriental countries at

first hand, to make arrangements for the sixth session at Paris in 1913 of the International Congress of Religious Liberals, and in general to promote the interests of the Unitarian cause in its larger world relations. He attended the Anniversary meetings of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association in London, and held numerous conferences with the leaders of the liberal religious cause in that country. In Paris arrangements were forwarded for the next session of the International Congress and a preliminary programme of addresses and exercises prepared. The Secretary participated also in the dedication of a monument in honor of Michael Servetus at Vienne, France.

In Germany the Secretary attended at Goslar the sessions of the Friends of the Christian World, one of the free Christian associations which had organized and welcomed the International Congress to Berlin the year before. In Berlin he attended the session of the Protestanten-Verein. In a dozen German cities and towns the liberal sympathizers with our cause were sought out and, so far as might be, affiliated.

In Switzerland he had interesting private conferences with the representatives of a rational and spiritual Christianity.

In Italy, during a two months' stay in Florence, Venice, Rome, Naples, Siena and other cities, the present religious needs and conditions of that country were carefully studied. From the religious point of view no country in Europe is more interesting at the present day. The work undertaken in that country by Rev. Gaetano Conte, through his Association of Italian Free Believers, seems of much importance and value. He has organized branches in Venice, Milan, Palermo and other cities.

Visits were also made to Egypt, Palestine, Syria and Turkey. The existence of a social-religious community in Palestine holding Unitarian views of theology and life, and known as the Temple Society, was one of the discoveries of the year. Its colonies were visited and relations established.

In Bulgaria, the Secretary was permitted a brief interview at Sofia with Rev. Anton U. Toplisky, for ten years past an unknown and friendless, but none the less zealous missionary of the Unitarian cause and founder of the Bulgarian Unitarian Association. It is to be hoped that with the co-operation of the Unitarian churches of Hungary, who are his nearest neighbors, together with the promised aid of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association and our own, we may look forward to a vigorous missionary campaign for our principles in the Balkan States. A few days of pleasant intercourse were spent in Budapest with our Unitarian fellow-workers in that city.

Everywhere the Secretary encountered the greatest cordiality and readiness to work with the Unitarian churches of the United States in the promotion of rational and progressive beliefs.

Departmen of Church Extension

This Department is under the general care of the Secretary of the Association, and is administered by the Committees of the Board of Directors which have charge of the activities of the Association in, (1) the New England States, (2) the Middle States and eastern Canada, (3) the Western States, (4) the Southern States, (5) the Rocky Mountain States, (6) the

Pacific States, (7) the Canadian Northwest. In the various departments aid has been granted to upwards of 78 organized churches and missions, divided as follows: 20 in New England, 16 in the Middle States, 15 in the Western States, 5 in the Southern States, 5 in the Rocky Mountain States, 12 in the Pacific States, and 5 in the Canadian Northwest.

The usual circuit preaching has been carried on in Florida, North Carolina, northern Michigan and among the New Americans in Manitoba and Minnesota and a good many of our settled ministers report preaching stations which they serve in their own neighborhood. A considerable number of missionary visitations by representatives of the Association have been conducted during the year in various parts of the country. Omitting churches listed under the departments of Education and of New Americans, this work of church maintenance and extension has been carried on at a cost, in New England of $6,132.12, in the Middle States $9,276.84, in the Western States $4,180, in the Southern States $3,322.50, in the Rocky Mountain States $2,675, in the Pacific States (including the gifts in aid of the Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry) $7,801.72, and in the Canadian Northwest $4,144.05.

The new churches added to our list this year are as follows: Lincolnville, Me.; Winnisquam, N. H.; Edmunton, Alberta; Moose Jaw, Sask.; Lynden, Wash.; Orlando, Fla.. Virginia, Minn.; Superior, Wis.; Foam Lake, Sask.; Icelandic River, Man., and Oakland, Cal. (Japanese). In addition to these new societies vigorous steps have been taken to revive our work at three important centres where movements have formerly existed but have lapsed. They are: San Antonio, Tex.; Memphis, Tenn., and Sacramento, Cal.

During the year new church buildings have been erected in the following places: Cambridge (Third Society), Marblehead, West Somerville and Brookfield, Mass., and Duluth, Minn. A parish hall has been built at Calgary, Alberta, and parish houses at Great Falls, Mont.; New Brighton, N. Y.; Montague and Barnstable, Mass. Extensive repairs and improvements have been completed in the churches at Arlington, Grafton, Westford and Taunton, Mass.; Vineland, N. J.; Messiah and Second, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Arlington St., in Boston, and elsewhere.

The officers and representatives of the Association have personally visited nearly all of the aided churches and new missions. The lecturers on the Billings Foundation and other authorized representatives of the Association have had their journeys so arranged that every section of the country has also been covered by them.

Department of New Americans

There is no work undertaken by the Association which is more picturesquely interesting than that done by and with our fellow-countrymen of foreign birth and speech.

(1) The Icelandic societies in Manitoba are under the general charge of Rev. Rognvaldur Petursson, with headquarters at Winnipeg. Rev. Gudmundur Arnason serves as minister of the influential society in Winnipeg, which is now nearly self-supporting, and Rev. Albert E. Kristjansson serves a large circuit extending from Gimli on Lake Winnipeg to Mary Hill on Lake Manitoba. Mr. Petursson

serves the outlying societies. Two new societies, Foam Lake, Sask., and Icelandic River, Man., have been organized, so that there are now in all eight Icelandic churches served by three ministers.

(2) The work among the Norwegians goes forward under the experienced direction of Rev. Amandus Norman. Mr. Norman makes his headquarters at Hanska, Minn. He maintains his relations with the other Norwegian societies, and preaching stations in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

(3) Rev. August Dellgren and Rev. David Holmgren carry on our work among the Swedes, the former in and about Chicago, and the latter in a circuit in Isanti County, Minn.

(4) The Finnish work is in charge of Rev. Risto Lappala. He makes his headquarters with the newly organized Free Christian Church at Virginia, Minn., and carries on a large correspondence with liberal Finns all over the country and travels extensively in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. He has also made one journey this year to the east.

(5) Rev. Hagerup Nissen has organized a People's Church (Danish) at Superior, Wis., and ministers there with self-forgetting zeal.

(6) Rev. B. A. Van Sluyters continues his leadership of the Holland Unitarian Society at Grand Rapids, Mich., a church which is honorably self-sustaining.

(7) Mr. Francis P. Malgeri has continued his invaluable work among the Italians of Greater Boston. He is hereafter to work under the joint direction of the Benevolent Fraternity of Churches and the Social Service Council of Unitarian Women.

(8) On the Pacific Coast our Japanese friends have established a centre of liberal religious influence among their people. It would seem that increasing numbers of the Japanese are inclined to make the Pacific coast their permanent home. They are entering the public schools and universities, and many of them find in Unitarianism a more satisfactory interpretation of Christianity than they secure from other religious bodies. It is for these people that the Unitarian mission in Oakland, Cal., has been established.

(9) Though not, strictly speaking, to be classed among *new* Americans, it is gratifying to witness a substantial growth of Unitarian interest among the colored people in Boston under the ministry of Rev. Powhatan Bagnall. Regular services are held by his congregation in the Parker Memorial, and he has among his followers many of the most progressive and influential members of his race.

(10) The Association now publishes for free distribution tracts in German, French, Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish and Spanish.

The opportunity of Unitarians to direct the thought and train to higher citizenship our neighbor of foreign origin, is limitless. The limited resources of the Association will not permit it to engage very extensively in this work, but so far as it has been able to form organizations for this purpose the results have been gratifying.

Department of Education

The Secretary of the Department of Education has visited and preached in the following college town churches to which appropriations are made from his Department: Amherst, Mass.; Ann Arbor, Mich.; Iowa City, Iowa; Ithaca, N. Y.; Lawrence, Kan.; Lincoln, Neb., and Urbana, Ill. The work of our ministers in eight college town churches has again this year been

made more effective by the employment of one or more student assistants, the salaries being generally paid in part or in whole by the Young People's Religious Union. Certain other strategic college towns have also been visited by invitation, namely: Madison, Wis.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Northampton, Mass., and Wellesley Hills, Mass. The Secretary reports a steadily increasing realization on the part of many of the ministers and people of the great opportunity which the propinquity of an important educational institution offers our churches.

The situation as regards the supply of men for our ministry remains unsatisfactory. We continue to draw able and devoted men from other branches of the Christian church, but there is a constant loss of men who abandon the ministry to enter other occupations, and far too few students of large ability are entering our theological schools from our own Unitarian families.

The income of the Frothingham fund No. 2, held in trust by the Association for the education of colored people in the South, has this year been divided equally among eight schools, namely: Calhoun Colored School, Hampton Institute, Kowaliga Industrial School, Maysville Educational and Industrial School, Okolona Industrial College, Penn School, Snow Hill Institute and Tuskegee Institute.

The Association has during the year sent the following Billings Lecturers to different parts of the country: To the South Atlantic States, Rev. Adelbert L. Hudson and Rev. Thomas Van Ness; to the Central West, Rev. Elmer S. Forbes (to the college town churches) and Rev. U. G. B. Pierce (to Ohio); to the Rocky Mountain Department, Rev. Henry Wilder Foote (to Colorado and Kansas); to the Pacific Coast, Rev. William I. Lawrance, President of the Unitarian Sunday School Society; to New England, Rev. F. R. Griffin.

Department of Social and Public Service

The constant calls upon the Department as a bureau of counsel and information indicate that many churches are striving to meet the new demands upon them and that they are by no means indifferent to the public welfare. The Secretary has given much time this year, as last, to the subject of housing reform, and many churches have shown themselves sympathetic towards it. The Committee on Housing Reform has clearly pointed out how effective work can be done, so that no church need delay action on the ground that it does not know what to do or how to do it.

Five numbers of the *Social Service Bulletin* have been published during the year, three having been original compositions and two of them reprints. There are now twenty-two numbers of the *Bulletin,* and calls for them come from all parts of the country and from all kinds of organizations.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Unitarian Commission on the Church and the Social Question, that a number of committees should be formed in the Department to consider problems of social interest and to suggest ways in which the churches could bring their influence to bear upon them, eighteen committees were organized, and all but one have presented reports of progress, which have been published and distributed in a separate pamphlet, which will be sent to anyone upon request. Following the recommendations of the report of last year, the chairmen

of the committees have been organized as the Council of the Department. The function of the Council is to consider how the interest of the churches in the work of the committees may be enlisted and to advise upon any other matters that may come before the Department.

It was quickly seen that if the suggestions of the national committees were to receive proper attention, there must be some link between them and the churches, some regularly constituted body in every congregation whose duty it should be to receive and lay them before the people for consideration and action. One after another the churches are accepting the burden of social obligation and are studying how they can best discharge these unaccustomed duties. As a first step they are providing themselves with social service committees which will keep them in touch with the national committees, and which will also be their executive arm in dealing with matters of local public welfare. Thus far thirty-one churches have reported the organization of these committees and probably half as many more at least have been formed which have not yet been reported. It is to be hoped that every church will add such a committee to its parish organization. For a further exposition of this subject reference is made to Social Service Bulletin No. 22.

Ministerial Aid

From the income of the Ministerial Aid Fund, the Rebecca Warren Fund, and the Judah Monis Fund, aid to the amount of $6,617.20 has been given during the year to fifty-nine ministers of our fellowship and to five widows of ministers. In accordance with the agreement by which the Association acts as trustee of the funds of the Unitarian Service Pension Society, the Treasurer has distributed to the qualified beneficiaries the sum of $3,762.50.

Church Building Loan Fund

During the year the capital of the fund has been increased by the sum of $1,539.57, so that the principal now amounts to $152,128.51. Eleven societies have completed payments, and new loans to the amount of $26,700 have been made to five churches. These new loans have been made to churches in Duluth, Minn., San Diego, Cal., Newton Centre, Mass., Seattle, Wash., and Waterville, Me. There are now outstanding loans to fifty-eight churches, and the total amount loaned since the foundation of the fund has been $524,680 in 191 loans.

News Items

Philadelphia, Pa.— From the First Unitarian Church of this city we get the following interesting item: "We are glad to report a new federation known as 'The Young People's Associated Union of Philadelphia,' composed of the Unity Club of the Germantown Church, the Young People's Union of the Spring Garden Society, and the Joseph May Young People's Union of the First Church. There is to be one regular meeting in each church every year, a special social meeting being held in May. Miss Ella Waldie is the secretary."

Louisville, Ky. — The Unitarian church has advanced its summer vacation to include the weeks before July 21st and Sept. 22d.

Alameda, Cal.—At the annual dinner of the church there were 160 members present. The guests included

Dr. Hosmer and Dr. Morgan, of Berkeley, and two former ministers,—Mr. Reed of Palo Alto, and Mr. Ruess, who made an address of congratulation. The treasurer's report showed all bills paid and a balance in the treasury.

* *

Edmonton, Alberta.—We learn of an unusually enthusiastic and hopeful new Unitarian society in this city, of which the Rev. A. J. Pineo, M. A., is the minister. Forty-seven charter members are enrolled and about $1,000 pledged for the first year's work.

* *

Eugene, Ore.—The Rev. Arthur Hays Sargent has been giving a series of sermons upon the general subject of "The Gospel of Human Worth," taking as his subjects, "Valuation by Character," "The Open Road," "The Incarnation of God," "The Deification of Man."

* *

Barneveld, N. Y.—An interesting and suggestive sermon upon "The Relation of Belief to Character and Conduct," by Rev. John L. Robinson, has been printed and is ready for distribution by the Women's Alliance connected with the Barneveld church. Copies may be had upon application.

* *

Richmond, Va.—During April and May Rev. Alexander T. Bowser has been giving a series of sermons upon the life of Jesus and the doctrinal beliefs which have been evolved from that life. The Richmond church stands at the gateway of the South and exerts a wholesome influence upon Southern religious beliefs.

Colorado Springs, Col.—A beautiful little pamphlet devoted to the life of the late Francis B. Hill, of Colorado Springs, has been prepared in memoriam by his friends. Mr. Hill was for thirty-four years a prominent citizen of Colorado Springs, and since its organization a leading member of the Unitarian church.

* *

Berkeley, Cal.—At the Commencement of the Pacific Unitarian School for the Ministry, held on May 10th, the Commencement Address was given by Dr. David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford University.

* *

Petersham, Mass.—Rev. George B. Spurr, who has been the minister of this church since 1907, resigned on April 6th. Mr. Spurr sailed for Europe on May 22d, for an indefinite period of travel and study. To show its appreciation of his services a reception was tendered him on the 9th inst., at which time many words of friendship were expressed and a substantial sum of money presented to him.

* *

Attleboro, Mass.—Mrs. Alma Faunce Smith was the guest at the annual meeting of the Alliance on May 1st. Sixty were present. The treasurer's report showed $1.162 raised during the past year, clear of all expense. On May 11th twelve men of the Sharon Unitarian Church went to Attleboro and presented the farce, "Our Wives," to a crowded vestry, for the benefit of Pilgrim Church. Much goodwill and fellowship between the two societies.

National Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women

Headquarters: Room 10, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.
Office Hours 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Miss Emma C. Low, *President*
153 State St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. Lucia Clapp Noyes, *Treasurer*
11 St. John St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Mrs. Emily A. Fifield, *Rec. Sec.*,
77 Morton Road, Milton, Mass.

Mrs. Robert H. Davis, *Cor. Sec.*,
19 East 44th St., New York

/ The important matter to record this month is the coming together of Alliance members during Anniversary Week in Boston. Two meetings were held, as has been the custom in recent years, both in the South Congregational Church. It seems like a reiteration of former reports to say that on Monday, May 20th, at the public meeting, "not a vacant seat was to be seen in the church."

Rev. Edward Cummings, pastor of the church, gave the opening words of greeting. An impressive religious service followed, consisting of responsive readings, prayer, and anthems sung by the choir of Channing Church, Newton, Mass., consisting of young ladies.

The audience then listened to Rev. Frank A. Powell, who came from Helena, Montana. He told the conditions to be met with in that section of the country and how Unitarians were meeting them. He explicitly described the kind of religion needed in the new fields and the results to be expected from the extension of the right sort of Unitarianism. He gave much encouragement for the Alliance to do all in its power to strengthen the fellowship with branches in Montana and the other Western States and to form others in existing centres.

A thoughtful and carefully written address followed on "The Conserving Function of Liberalism," by Rev. Julian C. Jaynes of West Newton, Mass., giving the Alliance much to be remembered. A hymn and benediction concluded a profitable meeting, the first annual public meeting without the president, Miss Low having been detained in New York. Her place was filled by Mrs. A. G. Robbins, chairman of the programme committee.

Owing to changes in the usual order of proceedings in Anniversary Week, a whole day intervened between the meetings of the Alliance, but on Wednesday morning the church was again filled for the annual or business meeting. In the centre of the church were seated 314 accredited delegates and 24 life members, i. e., 338 present and voting. Only 33 votes were received by mail. The rest of the church was filled with other Alliance members.

After the opening address from the president and the reports of the secretaries, further business was postponed to give time for the consideration of the By-Laws, proposed amendments having been before the branches for the last month. The changes suggested were presented and explained by Miss Slade, a member of the committee appointed to amend the by-laws, the chairman being unavoidably absent. As was to be expected, each amendment necessitated discussion and some argument.

The first change of moment was limiting the term of service of Directors. It was voted that Directors shall not serve more than six years consecutively.

In the article relating to the duty of vice-presidents to take the place of an absent president, it was voted that the

last sentence in the paragraph giving the order of precedence should be stricken out.

The most important change voted was the election of officers. Heretofore the "conservative" plan has been pursued, the directors elected by the body choosing the officers. Beginning with the next election in May, 1913, the Alliance is to be "progressive," and the election of officers will be brought before the whole body. President, secretaries and treasurer are to be named on the same ballot as the directors.

Some time was spent over the proposal to change the name of the Alliance for the same reason that the National Conference became *General*, that the Canadian branches might feel in full fellowship.

Further consideration is to be taken on this important question.

With very slight changes the By-Laws as first adopted have proved adequate for the requirements of twenty-one years. Now having "advanced with the times" and "to meet present conditions," they are fundamentally changed in certain respects, and if finally adopted may be regarded as fixed for another twenty-one years. In the meantime the real work of the Alliance will be done by the loyal thousands just as faithfully as ever.

Annual Report of the Recording Secretary

After a long, cold winter the spring, which never forgets to arrive, has brought us once more together on this lovely May day to listen to the reports which an incorporated body must give at least once a year to its constituency.

It is again my privilege to say with pleasure and satisfaction and with the utmost truth that this year the work has been progressive and without interruption.

There have been few changes in the Executive Board. Mrs. Bartlett having removed from Massachusetts, Mrs. Tuttle was elected in her place. The vacancy in Iowa has been filled by the election of Mrs. Garfield, and very recently Mrs. Claude W. Gilson has been chosen to serve the unexpired term of Mrs. Nash, whose resignation was regretfully accepted, to take place in June.

The monthly meetings have been held regularly at 25 Beacon St., with the exception of the one held out of Boston. Taking advantage of the Conference at Washington, on Oct. 25th, an Alliance meeting of unusual importance and effectiveness was held with seven officers and directors from eight States present. The meetings in Boston have been full of interest and sometimes long and exhausting, when taking the whole country in review. With the fullest local independence and self-government each branch has some conditions peculiar to itself and yet of real importance to the whole if the work is to be homogeneous and national. To insure a consistent policy your Executive Board assumes a general supervision and guidance. Directors keep in touch with their branches, giving and receiving information and explaining the action and purpose of the board. As far as the general treasury allows, extended journeys are made by some of the officers. This year the Corresponding Secretary has visited many branches in the West, and with Mrs. Peterson has been through the South. Mrs. Peterson herself made a long tour through Maine, visiting nearly every branch, and has now just returned from the Western Conference. The Vice-President for the Middle States was

sent to various branches in the Middle West, and the Western Vice-President has attended State Conferences in her section. The President takes the opportunity of the board meetings to accept invitations from branches on the way to Massachusetts, and the New England Vice-President is always ready at call and has done much for newly formed branches and those needing information and inspiration.

The necessity for such personal visits is unquestioned, and the details of accomplishment are perpetual items of "new business" for the consideration of the board. The coming together of officers and members, the meetings of Associate Branches now numbering fourteen, and the increase of neighborhood meetings makes fellowship very real and enduring, enlarges ideas and promotes collective action. This will be enlarged upon in the report of the branches and their work.

The board has established two new committees this year. One, the Committee on Printing, that the constantly increasing amount of printing needed may be done in an orderly and systematic way. The issuing of circular letters by the Sunday School Committee, the Committee on Southern work, the Post Office Mission and the Cheerful Letter Exchange, new editions of Study Class Leaflets and a supplement to the Library Catalogue, have all been authorized and distributed from Beacon St.

The headquarters in Boston have been rearranged and some useful additions made to the equipment. A second clerk is now employed, and Room No. 10 is the busiest in the Channing Building. Here the Encyclopedic knowledge of Miss Everett is still available, as with ready and truthful sympathy she meets each inquirer; here are Study Class Leaflets, Lending Papers, Exchange Sermons, circulars of P. O. Mission and Cheerful Letter Exchange and the Library of 1,200 volumes. This library of the Alliance and the Sunday School Society has proved its usefulness by the increasing demand and the widespread circulation of the books, and the second new committee formed was the Library Committee.

We gratefully acknowledge the gift of bound volumes of the Cheerful Letter from Mrs. Hallett, and the usual remembrance from Mrs. Catlin of the bound numbers of WORD AND WORK for the year.

The Board has recommended to the branches nine appeals for aid to churches, and advised continued assistance to Green Harbor and to the two Theological Schools.

While not making an appeal for any prescribed sum the Board has heartily endorsed the movement to secure the interest of the Alliance branches in the Edward Everett Hale Parish House in Washington. This is still an object for which to work.

The improvement of the Sunday school has been strongly fostered, and this year the special committee has cooperated with the Unitarian Sunday School Society, greatly increasing the interest taken by the branches in this important part of church life.

While the work for the welfare of College Girls initiated by the Board has found its cause generally approved, the response from branches in college towns has not been as full as desired. Every effort has been made by the indefatigable committee to interest such branches and present the opportunity for great usefulness. Social gatherings have been reported

from Northampton, Wellesley Hills and Cambridge, and congenial church homes are offered in Boston. At Poughkeepsie an experiment has made with Unitarian preaching on Town Sunday, so called because there is no chapel service at Vassar on the first Sunday of the month, and the students may attend their own church in town. Through the interest and help of the New York League and some Alliance branches different ministers have conducted services on such Sundays, with audiences made up of townspeople and collegians. Rev. Mr. Foote had charge of the May service and met the people afterwards. He reports conditions very favorable, a committee having been formed to arrange for monthly meetings next year from October to June inclusive. The movement will have the co-operation of the Secretary of the Middle States Conference, and our committee believes it possible that an Alliance branch will be formed at Poughkeepsie and later a Unitarian society may be organized.

The most interesting work of the International Committee is to keep in touch with distant members and with Unitarians and other Liberal Christian Women in foreign lands. Depending chiefly upon correspondence, it helps us to see things internationally and in a broad way.

It is a pleasure to record the increasing fellowship with the English Alliance—the British League of Unitarian Women. Whatever is found helpful in the American work has been quickly adapted to English conditions, and it is gratifying to note how many of the Alliance methods have found favor in their sight. On the other hand, the Alliance constantly finds valuable hints and modes of work in the English society, and an interchange of the *Unitarian Monthly*, *The Inquirer* and WORD AND WORK proves interesting and useful.

The International Committee reports that a number of Alliance branches have been established in Hungary. "The greetings from Miss Wellington for the Unitarian women of New Zealand brought us in touch with our kindred in far distant lands. Miss Mitchell has given the committee an opportunity to welcome to our churches and fellowship members from the (British) League who have come to this country and Canada. Mrs. Weller of Montreal has extended the welcome to those coming to Canada, and the secretary has endeavored to put those in Idaho and California in touch with the nearest Alliance."

Early in May, a letter from Hungary told of a successful meeting in Kolozsvar, where the Bishop's wife presided, an address was given by a Catholic lady, the Bishop spoke, and, to add an international touch, two English girls and Miss Boros sang English songs.

The Post Office Mission speaks for itself. Each year it brings to mind more forcibly the words of Mr. Forbush, who long ago said: "The Post Office Mission and the distribution of our Unitarian tracts are to be a most mighty force in moulding the life and character of the next generation."

The work which is above all really missionary and for which the Alliance is responsible is the religious work in the Southern circuits and the educational work whch has grown out of it. The opportunity that appealed to us so strongly in the early days has opened wider doors each year, and every Alliance woman should be eager to help with heart and purse till 18,000

Alliance members means $18,000 for Southern work.

The year has shown great prominence given to Social Service, a subject hardly necessary to emphasize at an Alliance meeting. All sorts of philanthropies have always been promoted by Unitarians. Industrial Schools, Boys' Homes, Reading Rooms, free kindergartens, Day Nurseries are fostered and supported by Alliance branches.

The Executive Board takes cognizance of all this and endorses all that is good and helpful, but still declares it to be the primary purpose of the Alliance to quicken and reinforce the religious life and to increase denominational activities.

In the councils of the Unitarian body the Alliance has now an honored place for itself. It is not now unusual to find the Alliance represented on the programmes of national, state and county Conferences. This year the Alliance is invited to take charge of an entire day at the Isles of Shoals meetings and to have a place at the New Hampshire Grove meetings at Weirs.

Our representative will bear greetings to the British League at its annual meeting next week.

Three Life Members have been admitted this year and thirty-six names have been placed In Memoriam.

The Memorial Fund consists of gifts to the Alliance from friends to perpetuate the names and work of those women, who, while living, were identified with church activities. These names will all appear in the Manual.

Such is the work of the Executive Board.

As the different committees add to this brief statement it will be seen that your Executive Board makes the work of each a matter of serious deliberation. Indeed, we are obeying the injunction of President Eliot and trying "to do our little work grandly and our grand work simply and modestly."

If in telling any part of our story we seem to boast, it is in no spirit of self-glorification. The work is a privilege and not a sacrifice, and we only long to do justice to the women's work as it has come to the Executive Board. Can any company exalt its cause with more reason than we? Have any women nobler ideals or fairer opportunities or greater incentives to splendid work?

I wish I had the power to make you all appreciate the importance of all that is ready for us to do. This great religious organization of ours asks the best service that is in us. Our heads, our hearts, our self-consecration.

Last month our Dr. Crothers addressed a meeting in Birmingham, England, and noting the difference between the English and the Americans, he said: "When you report, you report on last year's work; when we report, we report on *next* year's work." Because we are full of a sublime consciousness of what is going to happen.

If the ten minutes allotted me were not already gone, my report of next year's work would be full of the most dazzling statistics.

A tidal wave of Alliance enthusiasm would have swept over all the country. Each State in our great Union would have supplied at least one hundred Unitarian women, and the board of directors would have been doubled.

All dormant churches would have been wakened into life. Graduates from the Sunday school and the Young People's Religious Union, carefully instructed, would come to

the church with strong convictions and fervent faith.

The reiterated pledges of 20,000 women would reveal an ever stronger purpose and the constantly greater achievement of that purpose.

We shall listen for that report.

Those who are fearful of the sectional influence of Life Members may be interested to know that the Life Members belonging to the Alliance are living in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Canada and England.

The branch at Berlin, Mass., will hold an all-day Lawn Party on Thursday, June 20th. Electric cars from Boston via Hudson, also via Lexington, Concord and Hudson, pass the church every hour, and the B. & M. R. R. station is a five minutes' walk.

The branch at Toledo, Ohio, reports that the church is happy in the possession of a splendid new grand piano, which has long been needed for the Sunday school and for social entertainments. "An Alliance Guest Day brought us many delightful visitors from neighboring Ohio and Michigan cities. Their reports of work proved highly interesting and inspiring, and their presence strengthened the bonds that unite in sympathy all those of liberal thought. It was this same spirit which prompted 65 of our church people to charter a special car and attend an evening service in a distant town, where a small church is open on alternate Sunday evenings, so that the liberals may hear a sermon from our pastor."

The Junior Alliance has become a marked feature in some branches and has evoked such an interest that a few extracts from some of the reports given at a recent meeting of an Associate Alliance may be of value.

Augusta, Maine: "They are only five in number and meet with us at the weekly sewing circle. We always have something for them to do." Home-made things for the Christmas tree and for the Emmerton School at Swansboro. They pay no dues.

Brookline, Mass., First Parish: "It was thought a good plan for the younger girls to organize a Junior Alliance with view to join the Alliance better prepared for its work, besides being of some little use in the meanwhile." Organized January, 1912; membership, 30, restricted to girls in their teens; fee, 25 cents. Fortnightly meetings are held in the Parish House. Sewing has been done and 24 garments completed for the District Nurse. A box of books collected and sent to the Hindman School and shoes gathered for the shoemakers' class at the South End Industrial School. To cover expenses of freight, etc., a theatrical performance, followed by a tea, was given with profit. The Juniors have also taken charge of the Lenten Vesper services at the church attending to the music and flowers. Older Alliance members act as an advisory committee.

Detroit, Mich.: The Junior Alliance was organized eight years ago for the purpose of preparing its members for the Women's Alliance. Most of the older members are now at college, the work being carried on by girls who range in age from twelve to nineteen years.

At the regular monthly meeting each member responds to roll-call with a quotation from some Unitarian

leader. The first half-hour is devoted to a parliamentary law drill, after which the time is spent in working either for the Women's Alliance or for some charitable organization. The Detroit Hospital and Infants' Home have been supplied and clothing gathered for the Girls' Protective League. Dolls have been dressed for the Emmerton School, flowers supplied each Sunday for the Sunday school and letters, cards, etc., sent to Cheerful Letter correspondents. Several operettas and plays have been given at different times. On one occasion forty dollars raised in this way was spent for books for the Sunday school library. Another time, one hundred dollars was given towards a new piano.

"We have two social events each year. A birthday party in December, when we celebrate the anniversary of the organization of the Junior Alliance, and a picnic in June."

Greenfield, Mass.: "The Unitarian Girls' Club has two meetings a month, one when we usually sew for the Franklin County Hospital or some other charity. The second is merely a social gathering, supper being served by three members of the club. We also serve one and sometimes two of the parish suppers. We have about forty active members.

Leominster, Mass.—The Junior Alliance began as a Girls' Club, called "The Gleaners," in 1908, and still retains its name. Has a membership of twenty-five, and meets twice each month in the evening at the homes of the members. The dues are fifty cents, and any girl over fourteen is eligible. A full and most interesting report gives an account of the subjects really considered and studied during the years past, besides much work done in connection with the Associated Charities and the district nurse. A Cheerful Letter Committee does well and has several correspondents, and the Gleaners share in conducting the usual Alliance Fair. The secretary says: "The minister's wife has always inspired our meetings with the greatest interest and is our constant help. She advises us in our choice of subjects for study, and is always present at the meetings."

East Lexington, Mass. — "The Junior Alliance has been organized about sixteen years. We have a membership of twelve, from twelve to sixteen years old. Usually after this age they join the Women's Alliance. We meet every Friday afternoon at homes and sew. We have a table at the annual fair of the Women's Alliance, and give suppers and socials to raise money, which we give to the church and vestry fund. We furnish flowers for Sunday mornings. Perhaps it would be interesting to know that we have three Catholic members in our society."

Middleboro, Mass. — The Junior Alliance consists of twenty-four members, meeting twice a month. This branch has many social occasions and has given a Sunday school party to the children. Has charge of the flowers on Sunday and on special occasions. "Every third meeting is devoted to study and a paper is read. The study this year has been a continuation of last year's subject, the "History of Music," and we have now reached the hymn writers, which we find very interesting. Before this we studied the Madonnas, and in this way became familiar with some of the greatest painters. We have pledged $15 to the church this year and something towards the music, besides answering some outside calls."

South Natick, Mass.—The Junior

Alliance has a branch of still younger girls called Lend-a-Hand. The work in detail consists in caring for flowers on all occasions, assisting the Alliance at fairs and social functions, helping to renew the floor in the Sunday school room by a successful sale, dressing dolls for Christmas and being generally of much use in the church.

Northfield, Mass.—The Junior Alliance has 19 members, meeting twice a month, with a study hour and sewing, followed by refreshments. Now making a bed-quilt to be sent to the Children's Mission. Has outdoor meetings in summer. Gave one dollar to the Social Service Committee for Christmas Cheer work, and $5.33 to the Alliance fair from the sale of candy and dusters made at the previous meetings.

Orange, N. J.—The Junior Alliance has eleven girls on its roll. Its table at the church fair produced $20, given to church expenses. "The older Alliance has asked us this year to attend their meetings. They help us, for besides learning from the speaker, we are taught how to manage our own meetings." One member each Sunday buys, arranges and distributes the church flowers. Now working for the Nurses' Settlement and the heating plant of the Parish House. Each member has a Cheerful Letter correspondent. Among "things done" by this group of girls are the purchase of glasses for a little girl who could not attend school without them; gardening tools for the local playground; children sent to a seaside vacation home; making scrap books for the hospital and garments for the Friendly Aid.

Plymouth, Mass.—The Junior Alliance has a membership of eighteen, meeting at homes in the evening. Much sewing is done for the Jordan Hospital, and, as in other branches, flowers are provided for the church. While sewing the members listen to reading aloud, this year from Prof. Rauschenbach's "Christianity and the Social Crisis," which they find profitable as well as interesting. A supper is proposed to raise funds.

Quincy, Mass.—The Junior Alliance meets on two evenings each week, with an average attendance of eight, as many members are absent from the city—or otherwise occupied. Flowers for special occasions and for Sunday are provided and distributed to the sick and "shut-ins." The regular programme consists of a short devotional service, followed by a business meeting and social hour. This year garments have been made to be used by the District Nurse. "We entertained at one of our meetings the members of the Junior Laymen, an organization of boys connected with the church. On this evening a short business meeting was followed by games and refreshments. A large number of the laymen were present, and all voted it a very enjoyable occasion. We have followed our usual custom in sending to a struggling dressmaker in the South a subscription to the *Delineator* and a year's subscription of *Our Dumb Animals* to a small Southern boy. We have also aided the Parish Committee by donations towards the repairs to the church and to the pastor's reception recently held. Our work of reading to the Shut-Ins has not been carried on as successfully as in the past, owing to the limited number of members who are able to engage in this work, but we have remembered them at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Souvenir and Christmas postal cards have been furnished for the Cheerful Letter Exchange."

Unitarian Sunday School Society

Headquarters: 25 Beacon Street, Boston; 105 South Dearborn Street, Chicago

Rev. William I. Lawrance, *President* John H. Edwards, *Treasurer*

Louisa P. Parker, *Clerk*

On a Higher Plane

At the Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Sunday School Society the proposed affiliation with the American Unitarian Association was ratified by a large majority of the delegates present, and so became a fact. The details of this proposition for co-operation have been published so widely that most of our readers will know its provisions. In brief, they are as follows:

The Sunday School Society maintains its integrity, holding its annual meetings and electing its officers as now, and retaining its invested funds intact. Its officers will be elected hereafter precisely as heretofore, and will hold regular meetings at which problems of religious education will be discussed and measures for the promotion of that work resolved upon. The present publications of the Society, including *The Beacon,* will be continued, and others will be added as occasion demands. In a word, the work hitherto done by the Society will go on uninterruptedly, only with greater volume.

The American Unitarian Association establishes a Department of Religious Education, of which the present President of the Sunday School Society is Secretary. The Association now assumes the cost of the movement, recognizes the Board of Directors as the official advisers of the Secretary, and will proceed to select additional workers, so that the President-Secretary will not be obliged to work alone, as he has done in the past. So far, therefore, as anyone could observe from the outside, the only change in our Sunday-school work will be that it will go forward on a higher plane and with greater force than it has done in the past. The advantages of the change seem to be these:

1. The churches, schools, Alliances and individuals who have supported both the Association and the Society will now be asked to support only the Association. This will relieve supporters from a second appeal for help. It is earnestly hoped and expected that gifts that have been coming directly to the Sunday School Society will be added to those given to the Association. When so designated, these gifts will be appropriated by the Association to the support of Sunday-school work.

2. The President and Directors of the Sunday School Society will be relieved of all care about finances, and enabled to devote their entire time to the study of the problems and the prosecution of the work of religious education. In the past, a very large proportion of their time and energy has gone to the devising of plans for raising money, or to anxieties and economies incident to failure to gain the support so sadly needed. To be able to turn with full strength and relieved mind to the proper work of such an organization is not only a great joy to the workers, but a great gain to the cause.

3. Additional workers will be provided as soon as they can be selected. For years the Sunday School Society has plead for help. It has at last been secured. The President's activities

have not sufficed to cover even that part of the field in which he has worked, while whole sections have remained untouched. It is now expected that more and better work will be done and that the effect of the greater activity will be felt by every church and school in our body.

4. Perhaps the greatest gain by the new arrangement will be that religious education will now become a central interest of the denomination. The Sunday School Society has through all its 85 years of existence been a weak organization, and the Sunday-school cause has not only lacked the aid a strong society might have given it, but has been less esteemed because of that feebleness of the central body. So long as the support of the Sunday-school cause comes from the crumbs that fall from the table, so long will it be regarded as all dependents are. By this change our central organization officially recognizes religious education as of vital importance and by equipping the new department with a strong force of workers, it magnifies the Sunday-school cause in the minds of every Unitarian. Not a church, not a school, not a teacher or officer or pupil in the land but will feel this new access of dignity. All will find that the work, locally as well as denominationally, has in very truth been put on a higher plane.

Sunday-School Institutes

A significant feature of the Sunday-school movement of to-day is the new demand for efficiency on the part of teachers. We are no longer content with poor teaching, we are not even content with complaining about it: we are trying to remedy it. In this effort we Unitarians have our share. What we are doing is indeed little enough, but it is at least something. Our principal activity, so far, in the way of teacher-training is found in our summer Sunday-school Institutes. Of these we have for several years had two. This year we add a third. They are as follows:

THE MEADVILLE INSTITUTE

Earliest in each session is the Summer School of Religious Education at Meadville, Pa., which begins this year on June 25 and closes a fortnight later. The plan for this year is to concentrate attention upon Bible study. Rev. J. T. Sunderland will give daily lectures on various aspects of life in Palestine and on ways of learning and teaching the Bible. Rev. William I. Lawrance will also speak daily, giving interpretative readings, chiefly of Bible-story material, and conducting lecture-conferences on methods and materials in Sunday-school work. Lectures will also be given by Dr. and Mrs. L. W. Mason, Mrs. R. C. Stevens, Rev. T. P. Byrnes, Prof. Frank L. Reed, Rev. Henry T. Secrist, Mr. E. A. Hempstead, Rev. J. H. Applebee, and others.

An effort is made to reduce expenses of attendance at this Institute to as low a sum as possible. Students will be able to enjoy all the privileges of this course, amid beautiful surroundings and in the atmosphere of a school, with tuition, board, and room rent included, at a cost of about one dollar a day.

THE SHOALS INSTITUTE

The Isles of Shoals Sunday-School Institute is always held the week following the historic Shoals Summer Meetings. The "Meetings" will be held this year through the week beginning July 7, the Institute beginning July 15. Sunday, the 14th, is a sort of connecting link between the two, many of the members of the In-

stitute coming on Saturday, so as to get the uplift of the Sunday services before entering upon the week of study.

At this summer's Shoals Institute, Rev. George R. Dodson, Ph. D., of St. Louis, will give five lectures, the subjects being "The Ideal Aim of Religious Education," "The Psychology of the Child," "The Three Main Stages in the Evolution of Personality," "The Intellectual Side of Religious Education," and "Materials and Methods."

Prof. Nathaniel Schmidt of Cornell University will give three lectures on "The Land and the Book," "The Bible and the Monuments," and "The Pre-Christian Savior."

Rev. Arthur H. Coar of Holyoke, Mass., will speak on "The Teacher," "The Lesson," "The Service of Worship," and "Education for Social Service."

Rev. Otto R. Duerr of Melrose, Mass., will give two conference addresses on Handwork in the Sunday school, his subject being "Abstract Things Made Concrete."

Rev. William I. Lawrance will give a series of readings from the Bible, chiefly dealing with little-used story material, and will hold conferences on Sunday-school work and materials. There will be two evening lectures, illustrated by stereopticon, one by Mrs. Caroline B. Lawrance on her recent tour in Palestine, and one by Miss Frances M. Dadmun, on "The Selection of Pictures in Sunday-School Work." Other features will doubtless be contributed by persons in attendance as heretofore.

The two hotels will be open again this year under what promises to be excellent management. The rates at either will be $14 a week to members of the Institute, membership, which admits to all privileges, costing $1 for the week. Persons expecting to attend would do well to send their names, with the necessary dollar, as soon as convenient, to Mr. Carl B. Wetherell, Morristown, N. J. Special round-trip tickets between Boston and the hotels will cost $2.35 each.

THE WEIRS INSTITUTE

An effort is being made this year to revive the Weirs Meetings, once so largely attended. Our part in this summer's meetings consists of two courses of lectures given in the forenoons from Monday, Aug. 5, to Saturday, Aug. 10. One course will be given by Mrs. Caroline C. Barney, State Supervisor of Universalist Sunday schools in Massachusetts, the subjects being, "The Child," "The Use of the Story," "The Teacher's Training," and "The School." The other course will be by Rev. William I. Lawrance, comprising expository readings of each of the three Biblical books, Genesis, Isaiah, and the Acts, and two Round-Table Conferences.

Other meetings will be held under the auspices of the Weirs Meetings Committee, as follows:

On Sunday, Aug. 4, Rev. E. J. Prescott will preach at Laconia in the forenoon. Rev. Thomas Van Ness will preach at the Weirs in the afternoon and evening of the same day. During the week Rev. Albert Lazenby will lecture on "International Peace," "Robert Burns," and "Robert Browning." Rev. George L. Thompson will speak on "International Peace," and Mr. Robert H. Magwood on "Temperance." There will be a Ministers' Conference, addressed by Rev. Samuel C. Beane, D. D., Rev. Henry H. Barber, D. D., and others; a Conference of Alliance Workers, conducted by Mrs. Alma Faunce Smith; a Young People's Religious

Union "field day," with addresses by Rev. Dudley Hayes Ferrell, Hon. Sanford Bates, and Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie; and a meeting in the interest of social justice, with address by Rev. Alson W. Robinson. There are to be two stereopticon lectures, one by Rev. Henry G. Ives, on "Palestine," and one by Mrs. Caroline B. Lawrance, on "Japan." On the final Sunday Rev. Edward Cummings will preach at the morning service and in the afternoon. A concert under the auspices of the Young People's Religious Union and several prayer and praise services are also on the programme.

Programmes and full particulars of the Meadville meetings may be obtained on request from Rev. Henry T. Secrist, Meadville, Pa.; of the Shoals meetings from Rev. Geo. H. Badger, 104 East 20th St., New York City; of the Weirs meetings from James E. Odlin, Esq., 10 Central Square, Lynn, Mass. Any or all of these may also be found at the headquarters of the Unitarian Sunday School Society in Boston, and will be sent from that office on request to any address.

Churches, schools, and interested persons are reminded that one of the best returns they could make to the faithful workers in our Sunday schools would be to send them to one of these gatherings. Every dollar so invested is sure to bring a large return in refreshed and encouraged teachers and better work done.

The Institute Idea

The policy which has been so successfully tried at our Summer Institutes is capable of wide development. People of serious purpose soon tire of gatherings that offer only entertainment, even though that entertainment be of high intellectual quality. So much is to be done and by workers often oppressed by the sense of their lack of preparation that wherever opportunities are offered for the study of methods they are gladly embraced. With the expected equipment of the new Department of Religious Education, it will be possible to arrange institutes at other times and places, some of them perhaps on the same large scale on which they have been carried forward at the Shoals and at Meadville, but in other instances in a very modest way, bringing together the workers from a few neighboring churches. The present expectation reaches even beyond this to the carrying of the institute-idea to individual churches so situated that they cannot co-operate with others. To bring technical instruction and the inspiring word of experience to our faithful workers in the Sunday-school field is an object worthy of study and effort. Our churches are coming to realize that the work of religious education in the Sunday school and in the home is second in importance to no other that can be undertaken. It is at the same time a work presenting technical difficulties, but that must be done, none the less, by persons who have not had technical training. Whatever, therefore, the new Department of Religious Education may help to do in bringing the help of trained and experienced workers to those who have this serious responsibility in charge, ought to receive the approval and the support of our people.

Young People's Religious Union of the Unitarian Church

Headquarters; Room 11, 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Rev. Dudley Hayes Ferrell, *President*

Miss Grace R. Torr, *Secretary* Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting

The tenth and last regular meeting of the Young People's Religious Union's Executive Board for 1911-1912 was held in Room 11, 25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass., on Tuesday afternoon, May 14, 1912, at 2.30 o'clock.

In the absence of the president or a vice-president, the secretary presided; and there were present: Miss Cline, Mr. Ives, Mr. McMurdie and Miss Simmons.

The secretary's minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer then read his monthly statement.

Voted: To accept the report.

The bills were next presented.

Voted: To instruct the treasurer to pay the bills.

The secretary's report for the month of April was presented.

Voted: To accept this report.

The committee on the Annual Meeting programme reported having secured as the speakers on this occasion, Rev. Benjamin R. Bulkeley and Rev. Charles Fleischer.

The committee on the Weirs Meetings had no report to make at this time.

The treasurer reported concerning the amounts sent to the college town churches so far.

Voted: That the secretary send letters to the places not yet having applied for the second installment, asking if it is to be needed, and if so, application should be made to the treasurer.

Voted: To adjourn.

Grace R. Torr, *Secretary.*

Officers and Directors for 1912-13

President, Rev. Dudley Hays Ferrell, Brockton, Mass; vice-presidents, Mrs. Joseph Abbott, Charleston, S. C.; Rev. John Haynes Holmes, New York, N. Y.; Rev. Abbot Peterson, Lancaster, Mass.; Mr. Henry W. Robbins, West Newton, Mass.; Rev. Albert R. Vail, Urbana, Ill.; Rev. Fred Alban Weil, Bellingham, Wash.; secretary, Miss Grace R. Torr, Peabody, Mass.; treasurer, Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie, Boston, Mass.; directors, Mr. Ralph Beatley, Roxbury, Mass.; Miss Caroline S. Burrage, West Newton, Mass.; Miss Emily J. Cline, Dorchester, Mass.; Miss Alice M. Dicker, East Boston, Mass.; Rev. Robert J. Hutcheon, Toronto, Canada; Rev. Henry G. Ives, Andover, N. H.; Mr. Joseph C. Kiley, Jamestown, N. Y.; Mr. Harold S. Lyon, West Bridgewater, Mass.; Mr. Harry Newman, Hopedale, Mass.; Mr. Henry G. Rogers, Yarmouth, Me.; Miss Emma R. Ross, Los Angeles, Cal.; Miss Almira E. Simmons, Wollaston, Mass.; Rev. Charles J. Staples, Burlington, Vt.; Miss Harriet C. Stimson, Fitchburg, Mass.; Miss Elsa Waldie, Germantown, Pa.

Sixteenth Annual Meeting

The sixteenth annual meeting of the Young People's Religious Union was held in the South Congregational Church, Boston, on Thursday, May 23, 1912.

The business session, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, was presided over by the president, Rev. Dudley H. Ferrell. After routine business, with the

reports of the secretary and treasurer, there were also reports by the Policy, the Finance, the Fair, the Union-at-Large, the Life Membership, the Nominating and the various District Committees; several federations were also heard from as regards the year's work.

Officers and directors were next elected.

In the course of the afternoon the Resolutions Committee submitted the following, which were unanimously adopted:

1. Resolved: That the Young People's Religious Union desires to place on record its grateful thanks for the use of the South Congregational Church for its annual meeting.

2. Resolved: That the delegates to the annual meeting of the Young People's Religious Union send hearty greetings to their fellow-workers of the Young People's Christian Union of the Universalist Church and bespeak for the future more cordial, fraternal and sympathetic relations between the two bodies in our common work.

3. Resolved: That the delegates and representatives here assembled express their gratitude for the annual reception and supper made possible by the Boston Federation.

4. Resolved: That this meeting desires to place on record its grateful appreciation of the cheerful, faithful and energetic work of Miss Mallie J. Floyd in the five biennial bazaars of the Young People's Religious Union, of which she has so kindly taken charge, and we pledge our earnest support and co-operation to her in our future activities in this direction.

5. Resolved: That this meeting assures our secretary, Miss Grace R. Torr, and our treasurer, Mr. O. Arthur McMurdie, that the vital work which they perform each year is fully and heartily appreciated.

The Credentials Committee reported 121 accredited delegates as below: 94 from Massachusetts, 6 from Rhode Island, 5 from New Hampshire, 6 from Maine, 1 from Michigan, 3 from Vermont, 1 from California, and 5 from Pennsylvania.

Following the business there was a reception for about an hour in the parlors, after which the company enjoyed a social with supper in the vestry, both of these being made possible through the courtesy of the Boston Federation.

The public evening meeting took place in the church auditorium at 7.30 o'clock, the president leading a short devotional service of praise and prayer. Rev. Benjamin R. Bulkeley of Beverly was then introduced as the first speaker of the evening, taking as his theme, "Some Thoughts About Success." Mr. Bulkeley has always been a loyal, devoted friend of the young people's cause and his remarks dealt largely with much that was of vital consequence to their work.

Dr. Charles Fleischer of Boston, the second speaker, was certainly at his best on this occasion and pleased all who were fortunate enough to be present. His subject was "American Religion," which he considers eminently sane though rational, and eminently reverent though rationalistic. The music on this occasion was rendered by a special chorus choir from the Boston Federation, under the personal direction of Mr. William E. Weston of Quincy, Mass.

Report of the Policy Committee for the Y. P. R. U. 1912-13

For the furtherance of the purposes in which we are united as a

Young People's Religious Union your Policy Committee would respectfully recommend that during the ensuing year these six specific steps be taken:

1st. That renewed and diligent efforts be made to secure the sympathetic co-operation of the young people in every Unitarian church, to the end that both the local church and the common cause may be strengthened.

2d. That a census of the members of all delegate Unions be taken at the beginning of this year and again next year, and that in the interim a vigorous membership campaign be conducted, for while a large organization is not our primary aim, yet much strength and inspiration lies in increased numbers, and our work to be effectively performed requires many hands.

3d. That the organization and conduct of neighborhood federations be promoted and encouraged.

4th. That in recognition of the close relationship existent between our work and that of the Unitarian Sunday School Society, Junior Alliance, and Educational Department of the American Unitarian Association, we seek a clearer understanding and more intimate co-operation with these several organizations.

5th. That the securing of a salary for the office of President be continually held before the attention of the Board of Directors, of the local Unions, and of the Unitarian constituency in general.

6th. That the Unions be requested and urged to raise at least $600 for the support of the Student Assistant Work in College Town Churches. This is a cause that the Union has adopted as its own for several years, and is a splendid channel for our missionary enterprises.

HAROLD G. ARNOLD,
MISS EMMA R. ROSS,
R. F. LEAVENS,
ABBOT PETERSON.

Boston Federation

The tenth annual meeting of the Boston Federation was held at the First Church, Quincy, Sunday afternoon and evening, April 28, 1912.

Rev. Charles W. Casson of Dorchester conducted the devotional service, which was held at 4 o'clock, prior to the business session.

The president, Mr. Frank E. Cook, presided at the business session, the reports of the secretary, the treasurer and the standing committees were given and accepted.

Following a short recess, the Nominating Committee presented a list of officers for the ensuing year, the following being elected:

President, Mr. Leon F. Cummings, Channing Guild, Dorchester.

Vice-President, Mr. Fred G. May, Jr., Nathaniel Hall Society, Dorchester.

Secretary, Miss Ethel Stowe, Unity Fraternity, Winthrop.

Treasurer, Mr. Ralph Beatley, Disciples' Guild, Boston.

It was voted that the retiring president, Mr. Frank E. Cook, be made a Life Member of the Y. P. R. U.

One hundred and fifty-three delegates were present, and all were most hospitably entertained at supper by the Quincy Union.

The evening service opened at 7.30, the address, "The Religion of the Mormons," being given by Rev. Adelbert L. Hudson, the music being furnished by Miss Abby B. Penley, soprano; Miss Marion Moorehouse,

'cellist, and Mr. William E. Weston, organist.

NATALIE IRVING, *Secretary.*

South Worcester Federation

The spring meeting of the South Worcester Federation of Young People's Religious Unions was held at Westboro, Mass., on Sunday, March 31, 1912. The meeting opened at 4.45, with Mr. Vaunce W. Batchelder in the chair, Mr. S. Eugene Brigham giving a very hearty welcome on behalf of the Westboro church.

The secretary's report of the annual meeting in Worcester in January was read by Miss Edith P. Kilburn, in the absence of the secretary, and was accepted.

At roll-call, the following societies responded: Hopedale, 2; West Upton, 7; Grafton, 12; Worcester, 7; Northboro, 9; and Westboro, 32.

The meeting adjourned to the vestry, where a substantial lunch was served.

The evening meeting opened at 6.30, with a selection by the choir and a solo by Mr. Brigham, after which Rev. Roy E. Griffith offered prayer. The speaker for the evening was Mr. Harold S. Lyon of West Bridgewater, who spoke on "The Age of Doubt With Relation to Religious Thought." He warned young people when they began to think out ideas of religious faith to use the school system of reasoning out things, believing it to be a good tendency.

Adjourned at 7.45.

Respectfully submitted,

EDITH P. KILBURN,
Secretary pro tem.

Life Memberships

Since last noted in these columns, four Life Members have been added to our list, making a total of 203. They are:

200. Miss Edwina B. Reynolds, of Dorchester, Mass.

201. Rev. Dudley Hays Ferrell, of Brockton, Mass.

202. Miss Jane B. Glover, of St. Louis, Mo.

203. Mr. Frank E. Cook, of East Boston, Mass.

Summer Meetings

Plans for the summer meetings both at the Isles of Shoals and The Weirs, N. H., are well in shape.

At the Shoals, on Wednesday, July 10, Rev. Laurence Hayward of Newburyport, Mass., is to conduct the morning chapel service, followed by an address, "The Coming Unitarian," by Rev. Palfrey Perkins, of Brighton, Mass. The evening chapel service in the stone meeting house is to be in charge of Rev. Edgar S. Wiers, of Montclair, N. J., a former president of the Y. P. R. U.

At The Weirs meeting, on Friday, Aug. 9, addresses will be given in the afternoon by Rev. Dudley Hays Ferrell, Mr. Percy A. Atherton and Hon. Sanford Bates, all of whom are sufficiently well known among our Unitarian young people and their friends to warrant a good attendance. A musical evening will complete the programme for the day. The fare to The Weirs, N. H., by way of Nashua, Manchester and Concord and return, via the B. & M. Railroad, is $4.70 by summer excursion ticket; and by mileage, $4.36. The fare to Alton Bay from Boston and return is $3, and from Alton Bay across the lake to The Weirs and return by season ticket is $1. Those going this latter way must exchange tickets in camp ground at Alton Bay at railroad station.

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